

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 8, and 9 are amended. Claims 1, 8, and 9 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Examiner Interview

If, during further examination of the present application, any further discussion with the Applicants' Representative would advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Carl T. Thomsen, at 1-703-208-4030 (direct line) at his convenience.

Request for Reconsideration /Reasons for Entry of Amendments

First of all, the Applicants respectfully submit that at least dependent claims 2, 8, and 9 contain allowable subject matter, and that the new combinations of references cited in the latest Office Action to reject these claims are not proper and should be withdrawn. (See arguments below.)

By way of this Reply, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 12 (claim 12 previously depended from dependent claim 2),

dependent claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form,
dependent claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form, and
rather than canceling claims 2 and 12, dependent claims 2 and 12 now depend
from independent claim 8.

It is respectfully requested that this Reply be entered into the Official File in view
of the fact that the pending claims automatically place the application in condition for
allowance.

Further, all of the subject matter now set forth in each of the pending claims has
been fully considered and examined by the Examiner. As such, the pending claims do
not raise any new issues that would warrant or require the Examiner to perform an
additional search of the related art.

In the alternative, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in
condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Reply be entered for the
purpose of appeal. This Reply was not presented at an earlier date in view of the fact that
the Examiner has just now presented new grounds for rejection in this Final Office
Action.

Drawings

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate whether or not the drawings have been accepted in the next official communication.

Resections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the last full paragraph of page 1 of the originally filed disclosure in combination with Vassilasdis (U.S. 4,473,074). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Arguments Regarding Independent Claim 1

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the present application, **independent claim 1** has been amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 12, and now recites a combination of elements directed to an instrument, including *inter alia*

"an angular rotation expander 2 which projects upwardly from the cabinet 1 for adjusting a height and an angle of the light outputted at an end of the output light path relative to a position and orientation of the cabinet 1,

wherein the angular rotation expander 2 comprises a primary drawtube 203, a secondary drawtube 201, a retainer 202, an opening 204, and a reflector 205,

the primary drawtube 203 having a primary lens 2031 located outside of an upper part of the secondary drawtube 201 and being capable of reciprocating along the secondary drawtube 201 which has a secondary lens 2011,

the retainer 202 located on an upper position of the secondary drawtube 201,

the opening in one side of the primary drawtube 203 through which the light outputted passes,

the reflector 205 located adjacent to the primary lens and facing the opening, so that the light emitted by the laser generator goes through the secondary lens 2011 and the primary lens 2031, and is then reflected out of the opening by the reflector 205,

wherein a distance between the first and second lenses 2031, 2011 is adjustable by adjusting the height of the primary drawtube 203 relative to the cabinet 1."

Reference numerals have been added above merely to assist the Examiner to see the differences between the subject matter claimed in the present invention and that disclosed by the cited references.

By contrast, with the CN 9411755.6 instrument, the entire instrument must be moved in order to adjust the height and angle of the light outputted. There is no indication that the CN 9411755.6 instrument has two lenses.

As can be seen in FIGS. 1-6 of the Vassiliadis reference, this document merely discloses a vertical post 12 that supports laser head 13 by use of a counterbalance support arm 14. A single lens 37 is provided near the end of the laser guide arm 15, and the light passing through lens 37 and out of the axial end of the guide arm 15 is focused by turning

hand-piece 36.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in **independent claim 1** is not disclosed or made obvious by the combination prior art of record, including page 1 of the present application and Vassiliadis.

Therefore, **independent claim 1** is in condition for allowance.

Arguments Regarding Independent Claim 8

Dependent claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and recites *inter alia*

"an angular rotation expander **2** which projects upwardly from the cabinet **1** for adjusting a height and an angle of the light outputted at an end of the output light path relative to a position and orientation of the cabinet **1**,

wherein an upper section **203** of the angular rotation expander **2** is movable along a longitudinal axis thereof, and is provided with a reflector **205** for reflecting light emitted by the laser generator out through an opening on a side of the angular rotation expander **2**,

the reflector **205** being pivotably mounted on a tumbler **5** having an axis which is fixed in a position perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the angular rotation expander **2**."

Reference numerals have been added above merely to assist the Examiner to see the differences between the subject matter claimed in the present invention and that

disclosed by the cited references.

By contrast, with the **CN 9411755.6** instrument, the entire instrument must be moved in order to adjust the height and angle of the light outputted. In addition, there is no indication that the **CN 9411755.6** instrument has two lenses or a reflector mounted on a tumbler having an axis which is fixed in a position perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of an angular rotation expander.

As can be seen in FIGS. 1-6 of the Vassiliadis reference, this document merely discloses a vertical post 12 that supports laser head 13 by use of a counterbalance support arm 14. A single lens 37 is provided near the end of the laser guide arm 15, and the light passing through lens 37 and out of the axial end of the guide arm 15 is focused by turning hand-piece 36. In addition, the reflectors 31-34 are located upstream of single lens 37.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in **independent claim 8** is not disclosed or made obvious by the combination prior art of record, including page 1 of the present application and Vassiliadis.

Therefore, **independent claim 8** is in condition for allowance.

Arguments Regarding Independent Claim 9

Dependent claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form and recites *inter cilia*

"an angular rotation expander 2 which projects upwardly from the cabinet 1 for adjusting a height and an angle of the light outputted at an end of the output light path relative to a position and orientation of the cabinet 1,

wherein an upper section 203 of the angular rotation expander 2 is provided with a reflector 205 for reflecting light emitted by the laser generator out through an opening 204 on a side of angular rotation expander 2,

the reflector 205 being pivotably mounted on a tumbler 5 having an axis which is fixed in a position perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the angular rotation expander 2,

wherein depending on how the reflector 205 is pivoted, the light outputted through the opening 204 is directed either at an upwardly sloping angle or at a downwardly sloping angle with respect to the axial direction of the tumbler 5."

Reference numerals have been added above merely to assist the Examiner to see the differences between the subject matter claimed in the present invention and that disclosed by the cited references.

By contrast, with the CN 9411755.6 instrument, the entire instrument must be moved in order to adjust the height and angle of the light outputted. In addition, there is no indication that the CN 9411755.6 instrument has two lenses a reflector mounted on a tumbler having an axis which is fixed in a position perpendicular to the longitudinal axis

of an angular rotation expander.

As can be seen in FIGS. 1-6 of the Vassiliadis reference, this document merely discloses a vertical post 12 that supports laser head 13 by use of a counterbalance support arm 14. A single lens 37 is provided near the end of the laser guide arm 15, and the light passing through lens 37 and out of the axial end of the guide arm 15 is focused by turning hand-piece 36. In addition, the reflectors 31-34 are located upstream of single lens 37.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in **independent claim 9** is not disclosed or made obvious by the combination prior art of record, including page 1 of the present application and Vassiliadis.

Therefore, **independent claim 9** is in condition for allowance.

In summary, the Examiner has failed to provide evidence regarding where the cited references disclose or suggest of the combination of elements positively claimed in each of independent claims 1, 8, and 9.

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 2 and 12 have been amended to depend from independent claim 8.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are respectfully requested.

As mentioned above, all of the subject matter now set forth in each of the pending claims has been fully considered and examined by the Examiner. As such, the pending claims do not raise any new issues that would warrant or require the Examiner to perform an additional search of the related art.

CONCLUSION

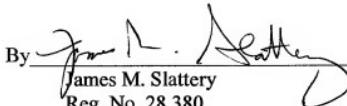
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 208-4030(direct line).

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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